

2006 Grants

Business: 12 projects

Name of Organization: Council of International Programs USA

Location: Cleveland, Ohio

Subject: Developing entrepreneurial skills in the Ethiopian workforce: Africa Workforce Development

Council of International Programs USA (CIP-USA) is conducting a three-phased program to improve workforce skills and encourage entrepreneurship in Ethiopia, focusing mostly on helping the Ethiopian Employers Federation to develop a business skills center in Addis Ababa. In the first phase, six Americans travel to Ethiopia for three weeks to assess needs in more detail, to conduct workshops on business skills, and to recruit Ethiopians who come to the U.S. for extended training. In the second phase, ten Ethiopians come to the U.S. for three weeks of mentoring and internships. In the third phase, four Americans travel to Ethiopia for one week to assist in launching the new business center.

Country(ies): Ethiopia

Region: Africa

U.S. State: OH

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Heartland International

Location: Chicago, IL

Subject: Developing entrepreneurial skills for young women

Heartland International (HI), in collaboration with the Tanzania Association of Women Entrepreneurs (TAWA) is conducting a year-long, three-phase program aimed at empowering young women entrepreneurs in Tanzania. In phase one, three HI representatives conduct a three-day training-of-trainers workshop for 15 TAWA members who in turn will conduct seminars for up to 30 young women entrepreneurs in each of five towns. In phase 2, two young women from each of the five towns travel to the U.S. for a three-week program. In the third and final phase, three HI representatives travel to Tanzania to conduct an evaluation and consultation with the TAWA trainers and executive committee and the young women entrepreneurs involved in the seminars.

Country(ies): Tanzania

Region: Africa

U.S. State: IL

Theme(s): Business, Women

Name of Organization: The Tibet Fund

Subject: Improving entrepreneurial skills of Tibetan professionals

The Tibet Fund is implementing an exchange program designed to give Tibetans access to higher education in China and the United States. The project's goal is to improve economic conditions in all of Tibet, including the Tibetan areas in the surrounding provinces of Qinghai, Gansu, Sichuan, and Yunnan. The program encourages the development of entrepreneurship among Tibetans by training them in fields such as computer science, tourism, and English. This grant supports the continuation of two programs, one of which sends ten professionals to train for a year in the United States, and the other for 40 students to train in English, computer science, and tourism at the Khampa Institute in Dhartsedo.

Country(ies): China-Tibet

Region: East Asia and Pacific

U.S. State:

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Tibet Poverty Alleviation Fund

Subject: Providing on-the-job training opportunities for Tibetans

This grant provides four months of theoretical and practical on-the-job training to at least 80 township- and village-level Tibetans in motorcycle repair skills, supplemented by training in basic enterprise management and accounting skills for rural enterprises. The project provides small grants to help with the establishment of township and village motorcycle repair enterprises and provide them with their initial stock of tools and motorcycle spare parts. Training is conducted at the Nakchu Vocational Training Center, while main responsibility for the selection of trainees and support to the establishment of township and village enterprises rests with the staff of the Nakchu Poverty Alleviation Office.

Country(ies): China-Tibet

Region: East Asia and Pacific

U.S. State:

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: University of Virginia

Location: Charlottesville, VA

Subject: Creating economic opportunities for Tibetans in geotourism

This grant to the University of Virginia (UVA) creates an innovative model for Tibetan geotourism -- tourism that is culturally, economically and ecologically attentive to and beneficial to local communities - thereby addressing the need for responsible models of educating tourists and agencies on community realities, perspectives and needs. UVA implements that model in Kham, eastern Tibet (in present-day Sichuan Province), which lags behind the Tibet Autonomous Region yet has tremendous potential for tourism because of its striking landscape, rich culture, and permit-free travel. UVA is designing and implementing sustainable instances of three types of tourism (mainstream, volunteer, and study abroad) to refine the model, create momentum, and produce detailed case studies.

Country(ies): China-Tibet

Region: East Asia and Pacific

U.S. State: VA

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: University of Michigan-Dearborn

Location: Dearborn, Michigan

Subject: Building ties between Arab American business people and aspiring business people in Yemen

The University of Michigan-Dearborn is promoting economic growth and a more open market-oriented economy in Yemen by supporting entrepreneurship and small business activity. This four-phased project to develop ties between Arab-American business people and aspiring business people in Yemen is comprised of American-led in-country workshops for 50 participants, a three-week U.S.-based workshop/internship for 15 Yemenis, the development of new enterprises in Yemen, and an international mentoring program, which involves one-on-one advising as well as seminars and workshops held in Yemen by eight American businesspeople and academics in the fields of finance and commerce.

Country(ies): Yemen

Region: Near East

U.S. State: MI

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Women for Afghan Women

Location: Flushing, NY

Subject: Developing entrepreneurial skills for women: The Apprentice Road Trip

This grant expands opportunities for Afghan women to achieve self-sufficiency through entrepreneurial activities. The program consists of three-week internships for twelve Afghan women in non-traditional and non-handicraft industries at U.S. businesses. While in the U.S., the participants are working with U.S. businesswomen to develop business work plans. U.S. and Afghan participants are also engaging in a mentoring relationship to enhance the growth and development of the resulting Afghan businesses.

Country(ies): Afghanistan

Region: South and Central Asia

U.S. State: NY

Theme(s): Business, Women

Name of Organization: Levantamos: The Center for Afro-Brazilian-American Cooperation

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Developing entrepreneurial skills for young women

This grant increases opportunities for Afro-Latino women to achieve self-sufficiency through the ownership of small businesses. Four U.S. minority small business owners provide entrepreneurship training to 50 Afro-Latino women in two Brazilian cities; six Brazilians travel to the U.S. for three weeks to work with U.S. small business owners; and four other U.S. minority small business owners return to Brazil to provide guidance and support to the 50 Afro-Latino women's business start ups.

Country(ies): Brazil

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Columbia College

Location: Columbia, SC

Subject: Increasing entrepreneurship for young people and women in Colombia

This grant is designed to increase entrepreneurship among young people and women by creating partnerships and business ventures between business people in South Carolina and Colombia. Project activities include bringing 16 Colombians to South Carolina for two weeks to develop a manufacturing and marketing strategy for product export and sending ten Americans to three cities in Colombia to conduct workshops with the 16 Colombians for 150-200 young business leaders. The project also establishes Junior Achievement programs linked to Colombian businesses within the school systems.

Country(ies): Colombia

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: SC

Theme(s): Business, Women

Name of Organization: International Republican Institute

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Expanding economic opportunities for indigenous and Afro-descendant groups in Bolivia and Peru

This grant expands economic opportunities for indigenous and Afro-descendent groups in Bolivia and Peru. The project sends 18 Americans to the two countries to conduct six five-day training programs for 750 people and bring five Bolivians and five Peruvians to the U.S. for one week to meet with small business owners and corporate responsibility experts. Eight Americans also join with all program participants to conduct four workshops in Peru and Bolivia for an additional 200 people.

Country(ies): Bolivia, Peru

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Partners of the Americas

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Implementing exchanges that support the development of democratic values in the Western Hemisphere

Partners of the Americas implements exchanges designed to enhance mutual understanding through personal involvement and linkages of key volunteer specialists in fields such as citizen participation, judicial reform, public administration, the promotion of minority and indigenous rights, journalism, environmental and historical conservation, education, economic development and trade, and visual and performing arts. These activities directly support the development and fostering of democratic values to improve understanding among people of the Americas.

Country(ies): Multiple

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance, Media, Business

Name of Organization: Partners of the Americas

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Implementing the American Business Fellows Program to promote economic growth, jobs and prosperity in the Western Hemisphere

The American Business Fellows Program supports a major theme of the 2005 Summit of the Americas: to create economic growth, jobs, and prosperity in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Approximately 40 public and private sector participants are taking part in internships that assist in creating welcoming environment for smaller scale private enterprises in their countries. The program offers a unique opportunity to individuals from the private sector, and to a lesser extent, public sector counterparts who shape the business environment, to develop technically competent and culturally sensitive workers who interact with peers throughout the Americas.

Country(ies): Multiple

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC Theme(s): Business Congressional interest project